

TRANSITION INITIATIVES FOR STABILIZATION + (TIS+)

Said Mohamed Hassan, TIS-DAI



A local community in Somalia celebrates the completion of a 2.5 km road with a traditional dance called Dhanto

Transition Initiatives for Stabilization+

Funding Level

66.9 million

Duration:

May 2015 – May 2020

Activity Goals:

- Increase confidence in governance at multiple levels based on equitable participation in decision making and management of community assets
- Empower community and government representatives to collaborate with private sector partners for community growth
- Increase community leadership of and participation in social reconciliation, peacebuilding, and peace messaging activities
- Increase women's leadership in peacebuilding and governance efforts

Activity Accomplishments:

- Third Annual Mogadishu Book Fair attracting 2000 participants a day and trending on social media for three days.
- First National Girls' Basketball Tournament in 26 years with select team members attending the 2017 Emirates Games
- Successful youth events in Barawe, Baidoa, Kismayo and Afmadow

OVERVIEW

The TIS+ activity aims to increase Somalia's stability through participatory processes that promote good governance and community cohesion. Given the fragile nature of the political and security gains made over the last few years in Somalia, TIS+ maintains a continued focus on quick impact stabilization activities at the district and community levels, with a focus on targeted areas in the newly emerging states. At the same time, TIS+ supports Somalia's goal of moving from crisis response and stabilization to medium and longer-term development by facilitating joint planning between community, government and private sector actors on shared goals.

TIS+ prioritizes engagement with government and communities within the Jubaland and South West States of Somalia, Banadir Regional Authority, and the Sool and Sanaag regions. The TIS+ activities focus on increasing stability in the country by improving the government's capacity for service delivery and demonstrating good governance processes, thereby improving citizen confidence in government and reducing the appeal of violent extremism.

ACTIVITY AREAS

TIS+ blends technical assistance and infrastructure development in communities throughout Somalia to address their short-term priorities and needs. In coordination with government counterparts and community members, TIS+ staff and facilitators work collectively to select and prioritize stability projects. The construction of roads, government buildings, parks, or installation of solar lights are some examples of projects that community members will chose. The projects are then implemented, monitored and evaluated together with the government and other stakeholders.

In targeted areas, TIS+ undertakes activities intended to build an enabling environment for stabilization, to overcome local challenges to implementation, and to foster increased, broad-based participation in these community-centric activities. Activities will be developed with a sound understanding of the present conflict drivers, resiliencies, and important unresolved grievances in a community, as understood prior to and through the assessment phase.

For TIS+, integrating gender and addressing equality across the program in a holistic manner is essential to the program. However, it is not only about adding a woman's component and increasing women's participation into an existing activity. Rather, it is about how experience, knowledge, and interests of women and men can actually

- Emergency provision of meals and water to 700 victims, caretakers and volunteers following the Mogadishu bomb attack 14/10/17.

Implementing Partner:

AECOM

Key Partners:

Federal Ministry of Interior and Federal Affairs; Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism; and Ministry of Gender and Human Rights Development
Emerging state Ministries of Interior, Information, and Gender

Activity Locations:

Somalia countrywide, with a focus on Jubaland and South West States of Somalia, Banadir Regional Authority, and Sool and Sanaag regions

affect programmatic objectives and anticipated results. The TIS+ team supports the empowerment of women and girls through gender-specific targeted interventions, while at the same time addressing gender equality concerns in the development, planning, and implementation of all project activities.

ACTIVITY IMPACT

USAID supports the revitalization of Somali dialogue, arts, culture, and sports activities to their original prominence in Somali society. Activities that promote social cohesion and peace in communities are particularly important for engaging vulnerable populations who have endured trauma and social and political exclusion.

In December 2016 the Somali Olympic Committee and the National Basketball Federation were supported by USAID to host the first women's national basketball tournament in 26 years in the Puntland capital of Garowe. The tournament attracted an estimated 2,500 spectators with hundreds of thousands or perhaps even millions of Somalis following the games through mainstream and social media. Afterwards, the Olympic Committee selected the national team members for the Emirates Games this year.

In the summers of 2016 and 2017, USAID also supported the second and third annual Mogadishu Book Fairs, which turned out to be the most high profile cultural events held in Somalia in over two decades. The fair attracted 2,000 people a day, and trended on Twitter in East Africa with over 5.5 million impressions of #MBF2017.

This year's drought has had a devastating impact on a large number of communities where TIS+ works. In response to an urgent need to get food and other essentials to difficult-to-access regions, TIS + is constructing airstrips in Dinsor and Baardhere. Airstrips are also scheduled to be built in Afmadow, Dhobley, Qansah Dhere and Xuddur, El Barde and Wajid.

The bomb attack in Mogadishu on October 14, 2017 was a terrible tragedy. In partnership with the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management, USAID stepped in quickly with the provision of most-needed meals and clean drinking water to 700 people located in a number of hospitals in Mogadishu. Victims of the bomb attack, caregivers and first responders were delivered hot cooked meals over a period of seven days. Other activities are being discussed with the BRA that help in the restoration of the city.

For more information contact:
usaidsomalia-info@usaid.gov

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